

From: Sanity in Anarchy
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft is a T-Rex: King Tyrant Lizard

I'll give you the short story first: Microsoft is a tyrant in the world of computers. Their strategy seems to be "Be sort-of friendly towards customers, and flatten the competition." Their software has almost no compatibility with other formats, whereas other software quite often has to be compatible with Microsoft.

In my experience, Windows is slow, unreliable, and extremely hard to program for compared to Red Hat Linux, but people are forced into writing software for Windows because that's what everybody uses. And people are forced into buying Windows because that's what everybody writes software for.

Let's take another example (and there are more than I'll take the time to write here). There are two word processors that come with Red Hat Linux 7.2. AbiWord can read Microsoft Word files and half a dozen other formats. KWord can read and create AbiWord files, Microsoft Word, and half a dozen other formats as well. I can't check any of the other formats because I'm writing this from an office full of Windows computers, but not one Linux computer. (And why? Because they have to.)

But what can Microsoft Word read? Only what it has to. It can read its own Microsoft Word format and other formats common to Microsoft Office, Rich Text Format, normal Text and Unicode Text formats, and HTML files if that functionality is installed.

This isn't even mentioning outright illegal practices like bundling Internet Explorer and making it impossible to remove (at least, for the average user). Or stealing such things as the idea for a spreadsheet program. Oh, and by the way - where did Windows come from in the first place? It was stolen from Macintosh. Much of the source code in use today was stolen from Macintosh, but I can't verify that because Microsoft doesn't give away their code.

Yet another reason to use Linux.

woof! woof! I'm @dog.com
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